

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strike through~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

1-25. (cancelled)

26. (currently amended) A portable electronic viewer system comprising:

a portable server ~~division, that can be carried in a container by a user, transmitting and receiving book-type contents having page-by-page information containing at least either images or characters~~ extracting sizes of a character's fonts from a data file containing at least either images or characters, creating a plurality of layered intermediate data files from the data file in accordance with the extracted size of the character's fonts, and transmitting the intermediate data files in a hierarchical order; and

a portable viewer ~~division, that can be carried by the user carrying said portable server division, displaying~~ one of said book-type contents-intermediate data files transmitted from said portable server division ~~page-by-page so that a full page is displayed and including a compressed data decompressing function that decompresses an intermediate data file, in which a page constitutes a unit, the portable viewer division, after the intermediate data file has been transferred, expands a transferred compressed image by said compressed data decompressing function, and displays transferred compressed image every time~~ the one of the intermediate data files is transferred;

said portable server division including:

means for converting a data file into the intermediate data file constituted by a part of information in an image in which a page constitutes a unit, where the intermediate data file is configured to have contents which are layered and the data is compressed;

means for transferring each layer of the intermediate data file so converted to said portable viewer division.

27. (new) A method for electronically viewing a data file containing at least either images or characters, comprising the steps of:

by a portable server, extracting sizes of the character's fonts from said data file, creating a plurality of layered intermediate data files from the data file in accordance with the extracted size of the character's fonts, and transmitting the intermediate data files in the hierarchical order; and

by a portable viewer, displaying one of said intermediate data files transmitted from said portable server every time the one of the intermediate data files is transferred.